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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/825,920	04/03/2001	Ronald G. Udell	40524-SGTI	3656

25763 7590 04/07/2004

DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
50 SOUTH SIXTH STREET
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55402-1498

EXAMINER	
WINSTON, RANDALL O	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1654	

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/825,920	UDELL ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Randall Winston	1654	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *12 January 2004*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-18* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) *1-3 and 18* is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *4-17* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Acknowledgement is made of receipt and entry of the amendment filed on January 12, 2004.

Claims 4-17 are under examination.

The rejection made under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, has been overcome by Applicant's amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 4-6, 12 and 15-16 as amended stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Hoffman.

Applicant argues Matsuyama and Hoffman, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest, provide any motivation or an expectation of success to one having ordinary skill in the art that a unitary "soft gel capsule" containing corosolic acid could be prepared. Applicant's argument is not found persuasive because Hoffman's beneficial teaching is not limited to a gelatin capsule that is only of a two-piece hard gelatin capsule. Hoffman's gelatin capsule teaching encompasses either a soft gel capsule or a two-piece hard gelatin capsule. Therefore, as the examiner explained in his non-final office action, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create the claimed invention by modifying Matsuyama 's

powdered herbal extract containing corosolic acid according to Hoffman's beneficial teachings that the easiest way to take dry powdered herbs internally is to use soft gel capsules. The combined teachings would have resulted in the claimed soft gel composition comprising corosolic acid to be administered for the maintenance of blood sugar levels and weight-loss. Furthermore, the adjustment of other conventional working conditions (e.g., the amount of corosolic acid contained within a soft gel capsule), is deemed merely a matter of judicious selection and routine optimization which is well within the purview of the skilled artisan.

Accordingly, the invention as a whole is prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

Claims 4-17 as amended stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Matsuyama in view of Hoffman, McPeak, LaGrone, Matsutani et al. and Shanmuyasundam et al.

Applicant argues that the combination of these references above would not create a soft gel capsule comprising corosolic acid, rice bran oil, silica, yellow's bee's wax and an extract of *Gymnema sylvestre* in various amounts. Applicant's argument is not found persuasive because as the examiner explained in his non-final office action, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to create the claimed invention by modifying Matsuyama 's oral powdered composition teachings to include Hoffman's beneficial oral soft gel teachings (note: the

yellow bees wax taught by Matsutani is being utilized to coat the soft gel capsule) and also to include the beneficial teaching taught by McPeak (please note that McPeak also teaches that rice bran derivates can also be in a liquid form), LaGrone, and Shanmyasundam because each of the active ingredients taught by McPeak, LaGrone, and Shannmyasundam's are each being utilized for the maintenance of blood sugar levels in order to obtain an improved claimed invention soft gel composition to be administered for the maintenance of blood sugar levels and weight-loss. Furthermore, the result-effective adjustment of conventional working conditions therein (e.g., the amount of each active ingredient contained within a soft gel capsule), is deemed merely a matter of judicious selection and routine optimization which is well within the purview of the skilled artisan.

Accordingly, the invention as a whole is prima facie obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made, especially in the absence of evidence to the contrary.

No claims are allowed.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Randall Winston whose telephone number is 571-272-0972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brenda Brumback can be reached on 571-272-0961. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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BRENDA BRUMBACK
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600